

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

8538 '01 JUN 15 P1:53

June 12, 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Docket # 98P-0151/CP1

I have recently been made aware of the animal abuse on 'downed' animals. Due to the horrendous conditions on factory farms, many animals become too weak and sick to stand up or move under their own strength. These downed animals are shackled, hoisted, and dragged by the leg or neck or pushed by tractors and forklifts to the slaughterhouse. The helpless animals suffer broken bones, torn tendons, and lacerations from this inhumane handling. Studies reveal that most downed animals are fully conscious and suffer intensely during the process!

In addition to posing an increased risk of bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (bovine spongiform encephalopathy or 'mad cow disease'), a disease that has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease).

I ask that you would support a petition filed by Farm Sanctuary that would prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Thank you for your consideration. I'm sure I speak for many of the public.



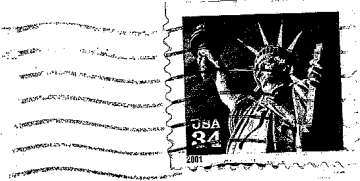
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